

**Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program  
Scientific Advisory Board  
Membership Balance Plan**

**Agency:** Department of Defense

1. **Authority:** Pursuant to 10 U.S.C. § 2904(a) the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Energy, in consultation with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, shall jointly establish a Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program Scientific Advisory Board.

2. **Mission/Function:** The Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program Council shall refer to the Advisory Board, and the Advisory Board shall review, each proposed research project including its estimated cost, for research in and development of technologies related to environmental activities in excess of \$1,000,000. The Council, pursuant to its responsibilities under 10 U.S.C. § 2902(d)(1) and in an effort to enhance the Advisory Board's review process, has lowered the Advisory Board's dollar threshold to any proposed research projects in excess of \$900,000.

The Advisory Board shall make any recommendations to the Council that the Advisory Board considers appropriate regarding such project or proposal. The Advisory Board may make recommendations to the Council regarding technologies, research, projects, programs, activities, and, if appropriate, funding within the scope of the Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program. In addition, the Advisory Board shall assist and advise the Council in identifying the environmental data and analytical assistance activities that should be covered by the policies and procedures prescribed pursuant to 10 U.S.C. § 2902(d)(1).

3. **Points of View:** The membership of the Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program Scientific Advisory Board is comprised of not less than six and not more than 14 members.

Pursuant to its authorizing statute, the Advisory Board must consist of at least the following:

- a. The Science Advisor to the President or his designee;
- b. The Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration or his designee;
- c. One representative of environmental public interests groups nominated by the Council on Environmental Quality; and
- d. One representative of the interests of the State governments nominated by the National Governors Association.

The Science Advisor to the President and the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration are permanent members of the Advisory Board. All other members shall be selected from among persons eminent in the fields of basic sciences, engineering, ocean and environmental sciences, education, research management, international and security affairs, health physics, health sciences, or social sciences, with due regard given to the equitable representation of scientists and engineers who are women or who represent minority groups.

All Advisory Board members, to include the regular government employee members, are appointed to provide advice on the basis of their best judgment without representing any particular point of view and in a manner that is free from conflict of interest. Pursuant to 10 U.S.C. § 2904(h), each member of the Advisory Board shall be required to file a financial disclosure report under title I of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.).

4. **Balance Factors:** The Department of Defense, in consultation with the Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency, also considers individuals with expertise in the areas of Environmental Restoration, Resource Conservation and Climate Change, Munitions Response, and Weapons Systems and Platforms.

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5. **Candidate Identification Process:** Prior to a request for nominations, the Executive Director of the Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program assesses the environmental expertise and represented interests on the Advisory Board and determines the type of expertise that best fits the needs of the Advisory Board and will provide for a balanced membership. The Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Energy, in consultation with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency requests that the:

- a. Head of the National Academy of Science, in consultation with the head of the National Academy of Engineering and the head of the Institutes of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, nominate persons for appointment to the Advisory Board;
- b. Council of Environmental Quality nominate for appointment to the Advisory Board at least one person who is a representative of environmental public interest groups; and
- c. National Association of Governors nominate for appointment to the Advisory Board at least one person who is a representative of the interests of State governments.

Appointment terms are not less than two but not more than four years.

6. **Subcommittee Balance:** The Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program has no subcommittees at this time.

7. **Other:** Membership adheres to the administration's prohibition against registered lobbyists.

8. **Date Prepared/Updated:** July 15, 2011